

Remarks

Claims 1-4, 7-14, 16-23 are pending in the application.

Claims 21-23 are allowed.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 13, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Chan (US Patent No. 5,659,541).

However, claims 3, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12 and 18-20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

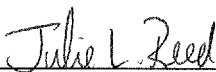
In the alternative, Applicants have amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 3, amended claim 9 to include the limitation of claim 12 and amended claim 16 to include the limitations of claim 19. Amendments to the dependent claims to ensure proper dependency have also been made. Claims 3, 12 and 19 have been canceled by this amendment, leaving claims 1-2, 4, 7-11, 13, 16-18, and 20-23 pending in the application.

As stated in the office action, these claims are now in allowable form, as are their respective dependents, which necessarily include the limitations of their base claims.

No new matter has been added by this amendment. Allowance of all claims is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,
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